

MONROE Vicariate

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FROM OUR Vicar

FR. MIKE WORONIEWICZ, PASTOR
DIVINE GRACE PARISH, CARLETON AND MAYBEE

What is the Church Saying about Cremation?

3. *The Church earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the deceased be observed; nevertheless, the Church does not prohibit cremation unless it was chosen for reasons contrary to Christian doctrine.*

While the Church prefers the burial of the bodies of the deceased, cremation is permitted. Justifying reasons for cremation would include the inability of a family to pay for funeral expenses, a great distance or time from the place or time of death until the time or place of burial, the disposal of a body used for scientific study, or hygienic reasons. Nevertheless, the cremated remains are to be interred in a sacred place. The cremated remains may be buried in a grave, entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium or even buried at sea in an urn, coffin, or other worthy container.

The Order of Christian Funerals, the current funeral rite book of the Catholic Church, states in its instruction in Paragraph 19:

Since in baptism the body was marked with the seal of the Trinity, and became the temple of the Holy Spirit, Christians respect and honor the bodies of the dead and the places where they rest.... For the final disposition of the body, it is the ancient Christian custom to bury or entomb the bodies of the dead; cremation is permitted, unless it is evident that cremation was chosen for anti-Christian motives.

The OCF makes it clear that the Catholic Church's funeral ritual is designed to have the body of the deceased present. Although cremated remains may be present at the Funeral Mass and be sprinkled with holy water as reminder of baptism, a

white pall is not to be used and there is no mention of the use of incense. The ashes should be in a worthy container. Any prayers that refer to the "body" are omitted. If it all possible, cremation should take place after the Funeral Mass and not before.

On October 25, 2016, Pope Francis approved the Instruction **Ad resurgendum cum Christo**, regarding the burial of the deceased and the conservation of the ashes in the case of cremation. Since cremation has been allowed, some practices have arisen which are contrary to what we believe. This instruction addresses these practices in order to correct them and gives the following directives:

1. *The church prefers that the bodies of the deceased be buried in a sacred place.*
2. *When, for legitimate motives, cremation is chosen, the ashes of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place; this will ensure that they will continue to be in the prayers of their family and the Christian community and prevents the faithful departed from being forgotten.*
3. *It is not permitted to keep the ashes of the faithful in the home.*
4. *It is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful.*
5. *It is not permitted to separate and preserve the ashes in mementos, jewelry or other objects.*

To summarize, the way we treat the remains of our deceased should reflect our faith in Christian death and resurrection. Whether a body is buried or cremated, it is to be afforded great dignity.

Anyone who is familiar with the history of the Catholic Church knows that in former days cremation of the deceased was prohibited. This was due to the fact that cremation was viewed as either a denial of the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead, or as a purely pagan custom. From the very earliest days of Christianity, the Church has always shown respect for the bodies of the deceased by a proper Christian burial. Honoring the body of a Christian honors the Creator, keeping in mind that our living bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

More recently, cremation has been allowed for reasons that do not conflict with our Christian Faith. Here's what the current Code of Canon Law has to say in Canon 1176:

1. *Deceased members of the Christian faithful must be given ecclesiastical funerals according to the norm of law.*
2. *Ecclesiastical funerals, by which the Church seeks spiritual support for the deceased, honors their bodies, and at the same time brings the solace of hope to the living, must be celebrated according to the norm of the liturgical laws.*

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER 2018 ISSUE IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

Please email information to: Crysti Esper at communications@monroevicariate.com. Thank you!

Our Lady, St. Mary of the Annunciation, Rockwood

► New CHE Youth Group

You're invited.....to belong to the NEW CHE Youth Group! K-4th grade & 5th-8th grades will embark on fun and spiritual activities with their peers of the Catholic faith. Private, public & homeschool students are welcome! Youth will meet the first Thursday of each month from 6-7:30 p.m. At the St. Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church in Rockwood (in school hall).

If you're interested, please contact Melissa to register. Email: catholichomeeducators@yahoo.com First CHE Youth Group Meeting is on Thursday, October 4, 2018 6-7:30 pm

Divine Grace, Carleton/Maybee

► Help Wanted

Divine Grace Parish is looking to fill **two** job positions: **Director of Religious Education**, part

time, includes a Sunday morning religious education program. **Maintenance**, full time, with responsibilities at two parish sites, including St. Patrick School. For more information, please call the parish office at **734-654-2500**.



St. Mary, Monroe

► Shelter the Homeless

St. Mary, Monroe is sponsoring an opportunity to "Shelter the Homeless". We are organizing a Habitat for Humanity building crew for October 13, 2018, 8 am - 3 pm in South

Rockwood. Please contact **Fred Fedorowicz for more information @ (734) 243-4344 or fedorowicz@sbcglobal.net**. Hardhats and safety glasses provided; no experience necessary.



St. Gabriel, Ida/Dundee

► One Stop Shopping Event

Thursday, Oct.25 from 6:00-8:00 in the St. Gabriel Parish Hall, 8295 Van Aiken St., Ida, MI.

Admission and refreshments FREE. Many items to purchase or bid on. A way to start Christmas Shopping.. All proceeds go to Monroe Cancer Connection. New vendors are welcome. If interested call Pat at 735-6256

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

► St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Academy PTG Craft and Vendor Show Sunday, November 11, 2018

8125 Swan Creek Road, Newport, MI 48166 1:00 pm—5:00 pm

Admission: \$1/person or a non-perishable food item that will be donated to Oak of Righteousness. Come and shop for something special. From homemade gjs & décor to independent consultants. There will be hourly raffles and concessions done by 8th grade class for their class trip. Proceeds will go towards St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Academy PTG. For more information on how to participate contact: Krystin Dietrich (734)586-0114 krystindietrich@gmail.com

► MCES CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, October 20, St. Mary Campus Gym & Life Center 9 am to 3 pm

All craft show information can be found at www.mcescraftshow.weebly.com

► ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

Friday, November 2, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, November 3, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

HUGE rummage sale in the parish gym at 2970 W. Labo Road (corner of Exeter and Labo) on the following dates:

Saturday, December 1, 5:30 pm Knights of Columbus in Monroe

St. Patrick School's 20th Annual Benefit Auction. For dinner and/or raffle tickets please call the school office at **654-2522**.

Vocations



Holy Hour for Vocations and Priests Thursday, October 11

St. Gabriel Parish, Ida

8295 Van Aiken St, Ida, MI 48140

Holy Hour for Vocations and Priests on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm and held at a different parish in the vicariate each month. Join in praying for vocations to the priesthood, religious life and permanent diaconate and for our ordained priests. **The Holy Hour is sponsored by the Vicariate Vocation Committee.**

EVANGELIZATION & Catechesis

► Inner Healing Prayer Day

Sponsored by the Monroe Vicariate Evangelization and Catechesis Committee will be held at St. Anne Catholic Church, 2420 N. Dixie Hwy., Monroe, on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 1 pm to 3 pm. Members of the prayer team pray with you as intercessors. They do not give counsel, but stand in God's desire to heal you. All are welcome and no appointment is necessary.



St. John the Baptist

► Annual Italian Anise "S" Cookie Sale

St. John Christian Service Committee is taking orders for its annual Italian Anise "S" cookie sale.

Orders can be placed through November 9, 2018. The cost is \$10.00 for one pound. Orders will be available for pick up in St. John's Cafeteria after all Masses on the weekend of November 15 & 16. Proceeds will go to St. John Christian Service outreach projects.

Order by calling Sis locoangeli at 734- 242-2095 or Angela Venier at 734-625-0558.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
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Beer & Brats

a family celebration

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AFTER ALL MASSES!

OR IN THE PARISH OFFICE, CALL CATHY at 734-241-8910
ADULTS \$10 | CHILDREN: AGES 5-13 \$5 | 4 YRS & UNDER FREE

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018
ST. JOHN SCHOOL CAFETERIA & GYM
MASS IN THE CHURCH at 4:00 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM

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Kids Games & Face Painting | Great Prizes | Raffles!
Visit: www.stjohnmonroe.com or Facebook for more information!

Peace & Justice



► Welcoming People with Disabilities So All May Encounter Christ, Part III

Below is the culmination of the moral principles of justice and inclusion from the publication, *Welcome and Justice for Persons with Disabilities: A Framework of Access and Inclusion. A Statement of the United States Catholic Bishops (1998)* published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

7. We must recognize and appreciate the contribution persons with disabilities can make to the Church's spiritual life and encourage them to do the Lord's work in the world according to their God-given talents and capacity.
8. We welcome qualified individuals with disabilities to ordination, to consecrated life, and to full-time, professional service in the Church.
9. Often families are not prepared for the birth of a child with a disability or the development of impairments. Our pastoral response is to become informed about disabilities and to offer ongoing support to the family and welcome to the child.
10. Evangelization efforts are most effective when promoted by diocesan staff and parish committees that include persons with disabilities. Where no such evangelization efforts exist, we urge that they be developed.

IHM Motherhouse & River House Spirituality Center

► Contemplation Opportunities

Centering Prayer is offered at River House – IHM Spirituality Center the **third Tuesday of each month, from 3:30-4 p.m.** There is no charge to attend and no registration is required. Centering prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. It doesn't replace other kinds of prayer, but it facilitates the movement to a receptive prayer of resting in God. The River House is not handicap accessible.

► Make a difference – volunteer!

The IHM Sisters are eager to welcome all who would like to share two-four hours of their time and talents per week at the Motherhouse in a caring and compassionate environment. They are looking for friendly people (16 years and older) to volunteer in a variety of ways including "friendly visitors," "wheelchair transportation," in the Library, Gift Shop and more. There are many things you can do to help! If you would like to be a part of the IHM team, please contact **Sherry Wagenknecht at 734-240-8312 or swagenknecht@ihmsisters.org**.

Upcoming IHM Chapel Concerts

► Sunday, Oct. 21 3:00 p.m.

Songs I Like to Sing, with William Harrison and Carl Clendenning

William Sean Harrison, known for his collaborative work as a pianist, steps in front of the piano as vocalist. **Carl Clendenning**, known for his full, vibrant, and powerful bass voice, works as collaborative pianist in this program of favorites old and new. Mr. Harrison is the music director at St. Pio of Pietrelcina in Roseville, Mich. Mr. Clendenning is music director at Gesu Parish in Detroit .

► Sunday, Nov. 11 3:00 p.m.

Organists **Thomas Curry** and **Neil Kraft** will feature music for four hands on the Chapel's historic Casavant organ. Patriotic music will also be featured in honor of our veterans on this **Veterans Day**.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Archbishop Vigneron has been very proactive in dealing with clergy abuse, even before the current crisis. Please go to the AOD website <https://protect.aod.org/responses> or www.monroevicariate.com At these links, you will see the prominence given to this topic, including letters from His Holiness Pope Francis, His Excellency Archbishop Vigneron, and a letter from the lay leader of the council for the AOD, the Honorable Michael J. Talbot. There are also links for those who may have experienced abuse, including how to make that known to the council, so the proper processes can be followed, including working with local law enforcement.



St. Michael the Archangel Parish, one of the most beautiful Churches in our Vicariate. (Photo courtesy Amy Hurley)

Top "Liked" Facebook photos in September



Fr. Mark Prill (left-Administrator at St. Joseph) and Fr. David Cybulski (former Vicar) at the St. Joseph Parish and School Labor Day Festival.



St. Patrick School children participating in the "Tot Run" at 6th Annual Fun Run.



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